

Predictions for the Upcoming Revolt

Disclaimer

The author hereby disavows any association with any group concerned with the overthrow of the United States Government, or of any group which seeks to undermine the security and stability of the United States of America in any way.

The author also disavows any unconditional support for the US government, the governments of its various states, territories, and divisions therein, or the governments of its allies. The author therefore declares their position as a neutral party.

The author further affirms the understanding that article III section 3 of the US constitution specifically names armed revolt as an act of treason.

Time Frame

Between March 2014 and December 2020, a revolt on a large scale will occur in the United States. It will begin almost indiscernably as a series of seemingly unrelated events, and will gradually grow to a more sustained and intense day-to-day fight popping up in various cities at various times. The whole event will likely last between one week and four years, during which time upwards of 1 million people may die, most of them unarmed civilians killed accidentally during heavy-handed military reprisals.

Depending on the nature, location, structure, and intensity of the revolt, the exact duration will be highly variable. An organized revolt will likely be smashed in a fairly short time as its leaders are captured or killed and its chains of command and communication are broken up; an unorganized revolt composing of many factions fighting with different techniques for different reasons and in different places will probably be the most difficult to suppress and will last the longest.

Location

The fighting will be concentrated in those regions which are hardest hit economically and the most socially conservative. Where severe economic distress and strong social conservatism collide, particularly in the urban centers of the Deep South, the fighting will be the most intense and factioned.

Cities to watch will be cities with severe economic pressure and racial tensions. New Orleans, Los Angeles, and New York will all have large boroughs consumed by heavy fighting. In addition to revolts against the government, groups will take advantage of the situation to wage a race war.

Washington D.C. will become violent initially. A large number of paramilitary organizations will advance on the city at some point. However, the assault will be ineffective as the president and everyone else concerned with government will be hiding in a safe location, the intentions of the paramilitary assault being known well in advance. It should also be pointed out that the nation's capital would naturally have the highest concentration of security forces and monitoring stations for just such an event. The US military will in all likelihood defeat any attempt to take Washington within a single day and nearly all of the rebels will be killed.

The least violent regions will be areas north of Sacramento within 100 miles of the Pacific Coast; the US territories in the Pacific and Caribbean; Hawaii; the rural midwest and those areas with fewer than five people per square mile (with the possible exception of the US-Mexico border); the rural Northeast such as New Hampshire and Vermont; the Great Basin area.

Warning signs

Throughout history, revolts have never happened without warning. There have always been clear catalysts for revolt, and any action is usually preceded by months or years of increasingly heated rhetoric and a general decay in civility between various parts of society. It is usually followed by a period of preparation by both rebels and by the existing regime, crackdowns on rebellious activity, sporadic violence, then finally open revolt.

At the outset, our first phase will be words and gestures. We will begin to see a rise in anti-government protests and violent rhetoric. Many militia groups will begin openly recruiting and discussing violent action. Public debates will begin to be less and less civil, with heated words being exchanged with neither side able to see eye-to-eye. This phase has been building since the late 20th century and has steadily worsened since the 2000s.

The people will begin to prepare. Gun sales will stay consistently high as people hoping to profiteer from the upcoming revolt buy up valuable guns and ammunition to sell at inflated prices later on. Increasingly, other survival gear such as body armor, gas masks, camping gear, and dehydrated foods, will become scarce as well. At this time (March 2013) the sales of weapons have spiked to historic highs, and in parts of the country goods like camping gear and dehydrated food are becoming visibly scarce in sporting goods stores.

As the people prepare, the government will prepare as well. There will be more military and police security drills in and around American cities, and tensions between citizens and the government will build rapidly as the military and citizenry become increasingly distrustful of each other. Already, there has been a move to militarize police forces and expand surveillance powers, and in many cities the military has been openly conducting drills for running convoys of armored vehicles, aerial assaults, surveillance, and subduing civil disobedience.

The next move will be increasingly strict laws. People identified as leaders of movements will be prosecuted aggressively. Restrictions on communication, travel, and the purchase and sale of weapons will become reality. Journalists, activists, and protesters will be actively and openly harassed. This has already begun to happen through bills such as SOPA and PIPA (under the guise of fighting copyright infringement), talk of a renewed assault weapons ban, and the arrest and secret trial of activists such as those prosecuted in Seattle under sealed warrants in closed courtrooms.

Although history will later cite only one event as "decisive," at the beginning it will not be clear which event was "the big one." A number of significant events will happen that will send the tension to its boiling point. Some possible events include:

1. The assassination or arrest of a popular pundit, author, or activist.
2. The large-scale use of live ammunition against protesters in one or several cities
3. The passage of a series of widely-unpopular laws, acts, or bills
4. A series of sieges similar to Waco and Ruby Ridge, occurring with increasing frequency.
5. A series of domestic terror attacks, especially on military, government, or police targets
6. A government crackdown, such as the declaration of martial law, in response to the above.

The Rebels

The rebellion will not be a unified front, nor will it be entirely against the government. What will make the revolt especially violent and dangerous (and what could ultimately be its downfall) will be the sheer lack of cohesion among the fighting factions, who will spend nearly as much time fighting each other

as they will spend fighting the government, banks, and corporate powers.

There is a slight possibility that certain groups of rebels may unite under pressure; this may see the formation of unlikely alliances. However, this type of bargaining usually comes late in any sort of revolt, and will likely not strike any decisive alliances in time for a victory.

The following factions will probably be big players:

1. *The militia movement*- These will be the ones most likely to take to armed revolt in the streets, and the most likely to elicit a violent reprisal from the government while doing the least amount of tactically significant damage.

2. *Conservatives and Libertarians*- While they will share some overlap with the militia movement, conservatives and Libertarians nonetheless represent a distinct group with specific grievances over issues like Affirmative Action, taxation, gun rights, and reducing some (not all) regulatory powers of the Federal Government. They will be a diverse group that will have little cohesion. A vast majority will not join a militia, but will instead resist the government as lone operators.

3. *Racial Identity groups*- Groups of all ethnicities, particularly White, Black, and Hispanic separatist groups, will use a revolt as an opportunity to push their own agendas. They will have some overlap with the above two categories, but will nonetheless be a distinctive entity and a fairly small minority.

4. *Fundamentalist Christians*- Once again, these will overlap with the above but will be a distinct faction. They will be religious conservatives concerned with issues such as the rise of gay rights, abortion, and what they see as the secularization and anti-Christian nature of the government and its allies. This particular group will be especially dangerous because they believe they are fighting for nothing less than the soul of the nation. Church groups will likely be armed and although not skilled in warfare, they will nonetheless be brutal and unrelenting and will fight to the last man. It has been suggested that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been "target practice" for fighting a religiously-motivated uprising.

5. *Hactivists*- This one's a wild card. The hactivists seem to be the only credible left-anarchist voice of resistance, and have thus far been the most active in their opposition to the US government and the most aggressive against their opponents; on the other hand, they are made up of such a large, disparate group of people that their exact goals are unclear, and many have an impenetrable inner circle whose true agenda remains to be seen (they may well be fronts for conservative or fundamentalist groups, judging by their homophobic and sexist language). These groups are least likely to engage the Federal government directly; instead, the bulk of their warfare will be a total war against any and all computers owned by the banks and the government. Nonetheless, they will probably have the most tactically significant effect. Our government is becoming a technological power, and those with knowledge of technology will do the most damage. The government has been monitoring hactivists as a threat for some time and it's possible that counter measures will be effective at keeping their influence to a minimum. However, if members of hactivist collectives and their non-hacker supporters take their fight to the streets, their ability to identify allies and remain covert could turn them into a massive network. They may join forces with some of the other groups listed above as a matter of convenience; their choice of allies may reveal the true agendas of the inner circles of these groups.

Types of Fighting

Although organized sieges on government strongholds are possible, the majority of the fighting will be

sporadic clashes in the streets between citizens and police or military forces, or between factions of citizens. The most common weapons used will be pistols of 9mm, .45 ACP, and .44 magnum, and .38 Special calibers, and semi-automatic and bolt-action rifles of 7.62, 30-30, and 30-06 calibers (as these seem to be the most plentiful weapons in the country), though rifles such as the AR-15, M-1 Garand, SKS, and AK-47 will also be commonplace in some of the heavier fighting.

However, it would be wrong to assume that the citizen resistance has nothing in the way of tactical mobility, intelligence gathering, and guerrilla tactics. Time Magazine recently had an article about the increasingly widespread civilian availability of drones. On one two-page spread, they show two boar hunters and their remote-control drone with night vision for hunting boar. Both are armed with tactical rifles, one of them perched on a hunting stand in the back of a four-wheel-drive Japanese micro truck of the sort common across much of the country. Clearly, if such equipment is used in an organized attack against the US military, it will be a credible threat but will not be enough to overwhelm the US military, which has been undergoing advanced anti-insurgency training at least since the early 2000s.

This would probably be the first revolt against a large government for both sides to use electronic counter-intelligence techniques. Some of the computers and cameras on the civilian market are nearly as good as what the military can get, and civilians also have access to four-wheel-drive trucks, night vision scopes, thermal imaging, remote-control planes that can be used as platforms for cameras or weapons, and small data storage devices that can be easily hidden and smuggled through checkpoints such as micro SD data cards.

One wild card remains to be seen: it is possible that countries with a dubious alliance or that are openly hostile to the US, such as Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, Venezuela, Cuba, and Pakistan may covertly or overtly support the rebels by providing weapons, training, equipment, and personnel.

Exceptional Weapons and Training among Rebels

There remains one factor which may complicate the outcome of a revolt within the United States: the fact that such a large swath of the population has access not only to exceptional weapons, but also to exceptional training. I am speaking not of firearms legal under the firearms laws of 1934, 1968, and 1986, but of weapons and machinery of a type not typically seen in civilian gun stores; likewise, in regards to training, it is worth mentioning that many citizens have either learned urban combat skills from the military, from civilian defense contractors, or from gang members in our nation's prisons.

One way the revolt may possibly succeed is if current and/or former members of the US military become an asset to the rebels. Many white supremacist and other radical groups now encourage their members to enlist in the military to gain useful skills for a revolution, and as a result there may be a few thousand current soldiers who have access to weapons and materials but who are of questionable allegiance to the US government. These would be typically enlisted men, but some may be non-commissioned or even commissioned officers.

It is worth mentioning that not only does a large part of the population have a military background, but a large percentage of the population is either in prison or has been in prison, and many of them know how to obtain weapons normally illegal to possess such as grenades and machine guns. A good portion of them are in gangs, and know how to carry out precisely executed assaults against rival groups.

These veterans and ex-convicts, however, are not unified politically; they can be found strung along the political spectrum, and they would not represent a unified front or faction. The country has little to fear from organized gangs of rogue soldiers or convicts. However, because of their relative diversity they

can be expected to form a large contingent of any faction that chooses to engage the US military, and they may complicate efforts to restore order substantially. Whether or not the vast profusion of military and underworld expertise within the American populace will be a major factor remains to be seen.

There is also the case of heavily-armed defense contractors. These groups of corporate soldiers have acquired the necessary permits for a good bit of military-grade hardware. Although they generally work with the government, and may be deployed during a revolt to commit acts that US soldiers are sanctioned against such as summary executions of rebels, defense contractors are, nonetheless, a private entity and tend to have a highly partisan slant toward conservative politicians.

If the revolt is against a progressive administration, especially one who has passed laws that create oversight or restrictions that they see as harmful to their business, then these companies may well contribute arms, armor, and personnel to the revolt. One faction the defense contractors seem particularly close to is the religious right, and many figures in the religious right are able to raise tremendous amounts of money in a very short time through front organizations such as Chik-Fil-A and Hobby Lobby, televised prayer-a-thons, collection plates in megachurches, and donation drives.

Response

There will be very few actual ground assaults by US troops; there will be no need to engage rebels directly in most instances. The military will rely heavily on air strikes, particularly Predator and Reaper drone strikes against targets of high importance.

In some instances, entire cities known to be rebel strongholds may be subject to intensive air strikes by fighter aircraft and cruise missiles.

Cellular phone and Internet service to affected areas will probably be cut off almost immediately, rendering communication with outside groups nearly impossible for most rebel groups. They will be isolated from reinforcements, and a media blackout will ensure that no images of military counter-measures will actually be seen by the public; this will allow the government to wage total war against any and all rebel groups and will likely be used to hide summary executions, the use of weapons and tactics banned by the Geneva Convention including chemical and biological agents, the use of secret weapons not commonly known to be in the US military inventory, and the use of heavy-handed "shock and awe" tactics.

If the resistance proves more capable or resilient than expected, it is possible that troops from more staunch US allies, including a contingent of British and Japanese troops will support the US military.

Outcome

The military training and the sheer superiority of weapons and materials available to the US military and its allies will likely prevail against any loosely-organized group of rebels, and any revolt will likely be suppressed with overwhelming force and a large loss of life.

The most likely outcome will be a swift victory- in a matter of weeks or even days- against any organized revolt on a unified front.

If the revolt is less organized and composed of smaller factions who launch their offensives at different times, the fighting may go on for months or years, but to begin with these cells of resistance would each be extinguished rather quickly, especially if these factions have vastly different organizational structures, goals, and identities (as is likely).

If, however, the fighting continues for too long and foreign powers begin to ally themselves with both the US government and the rebels, and if the various factions who are fighting decide to put aside their differences and form a unified front, then the likely outcome is a bloody world war fought mainly on US soil. Given the vested interests of many countries in overthrowing or upholding the US government, this is a very likely scenario provided the revolts are not suppressed too quickly or the rebels are not too fragmented to be unified in a single front once backed by a power such as China.

Total casualties to American civilians and rebels will be large, and the number of unarmed civilians killed will probably be very high due to the US military's win-at-all-costs philosophy. Military casualties will be minimal, but will nonetheless be significant enough to be of note. This author estimates that the total number of casualties- military, civilian, and rebel- will be between 10,000 and 10,000,000 depending on the location, intensity, and duration of hostilities.

If the revolt can be suppressed, as it likely will be, the likely outcome will be a complete and lengthy suspension of liberties and the imposition of martial law, and quite possibly the creation of a military dictatorship following the indefinite suspension of elections (as was proposed in 2004, with the excuse that terrorists might target the elections).

This will be a likely outcome regardless of who is president at the time, but a Republican or Libertarian president will likely punish progressives disproportionately and blame them for the war, regardless of the fact that progressives will probably not account for much of the resistance. Alternatively, a Democratic president will most likely vent the majority of their rage against conservatives, including those who had nothing to do with the revolt (an overwhelming majority of conservatives will not rebel). In both cases, anarchists and intellectuals of all stripes will be the most likely to undergo a complete and total purge.

The country would become demoralized, and the general sense of despair will be so great that suicides and defections will skyrocket.

Alternatively, if the revolt is somehow successful, the groups most likely to win will likely impose martial law and begin purges of their own. Of particular concern is a victory by a right-wing bloc led by Evangelical Conservatives, who may impose religious law. This will undoubtedly lead to:

1. The exclusion of atheists and of people of other religions from public life,
2. Forced or coerced conversions of non-Christians
3. The dismantling of the public school and university system as we know it.
4. The arrest and possible executions of intellectuals, the LGBT community, doctors and pharmacists involved in abortions or the prescription of birth control, and progressive organizers.

Whoever wins in the event of a large-scale revolt, the country will likely not recover to its former state but will instead slide into some fashion of totalitarian government. Reforms are unlikely for at least fifty years once this has occurred.

Advice to My Fellow US Citizens

What I am about to tell you is not something you will want to read. If you want to go back to believing in the immortal, God-Ordained land of freedom of your birth or that the people will somehow come out of a rebellion stronger and more unified as we did in the 1860s, please read no further. It is not my intention to destroy cherished delusions.

If you love your liberties, then you should, quite simply, get out of the US if and when a large-scale revolt occurs; no matter how noble the goals or ideas of freedom fighters, it will likely be either a failed revolt or a revolution that devours its own; there will be no glorious dawn of liberty.

You should be willing and able to accept that the country you were born in and raised to believe in is dead once its people come to the point of revolt. Don't let romantic ideas of taking a stand convince you to join either the US military or any rebel group. I cannot emphasize enough, you will lose, no matter whose side you are on.

I would say that the time to begin planning for your escape from the lower 48 states is now. You should familiarize yourself with the most convenient exit route to another country and you should make backup plans for the eventuality that your chosen escape route becomes unavailable.

At the very least, if you intend to stay and wait out the outcome of the war, learn how to identify yourself as a refugee and find a safe site for a refugee camp in a remote area. In many cases, the US military will assist refugees but not always; do not rely too much on the kindness of anyone armed.

If escaping from a war zone by car, it is critical that you clearly mark your vehicle as that of a civilian and have no weapons on board whatsoever, though it is no guarantee for your safety from air strikes. It may be helpful to have the flag of a solid US ally, such as the UK or Israel, to place on the roof of your car even if you are not from these countries.

But your best chance of escaping and having a peaceful life will be to flee the country entirely at the first sign that things are about to get out of hand.

In addition to the possible events outlined in "warning signs," it is important to keep your ear to the ground and listen to what people are saying. Take a look at YouTube comments, forum posts, and public demonstrations.

It may not be necessary to flee the country right away, especially if the problems are localized initially, as martial law will probably be isolated to trouble spots at the start; but it will nonetheless be advisable to be ready to flee in any of the following conditions:

1. Two or more cities play host to organized fighting or assaults of any kind, including the use of live ammunition against protesters.
2. Three or more Waco/Ruby Ridge-type events happen within the span of a month, or more than five occur in a two month period.
3. Martial law is declared in two or more cities.
4. Two or more Oklahoma City-type events occur within the span of two years.
5. A polarizing figure has been assassinated, executed, or arrested and there is a large, very angry public outcry.

While there is no sure answer as to just what the "right" time to flee the country is, the soonest possible convenience is the best advice I can give.

This author personally intends to begin taking steps to leave the country as soon as any of the above signs have manifested, and believes that this will occur in a matter of less than ten years if major reforms are not enacted to ease the social and economic tensions latent in this country.

As meaningful reform seems to be a foreign concept with our government, a rebellion is probably inevitable. I would encourage all my readers to become accustomed to that idea and to prepare to leave the country as soon as possible.